

The Bridge

See inside
page 4 & 5 Suicide
page 8 Homecoming football game

West Chicago Community High School —

Volume 11 number 2

October 15, 1981

Evolution vs. Creation

by Henry Bryan

Dateline ... God did not create the universe.

This is the point of argument for the Evolutionists. The fundamentalists, however, say that God did create the universe. The argument is on again, 'Did or did not man evolve from ape.'

The question was raised recently when a father in California complained that his son's school taught only the theory of evolution.

The theory of evolution according to Carl Sagan is that the universe obeys laws of physics and matter that are caused by an atomic partical and magnetic reaction. Others claim that the universe began with the Big-Bang. A gas cloud in space of im-

mense size started reacting inside itself and blew apart. The huge blotches of gas scattered and cooled to galaxies. From this cooling cloud that was still considerably hot, stars and planets condensed and took shape.

Life on the earth began as a pool of atoms and electrical charges. When this was tried in the lab, organic molecules were formed. So we hypothesize this as our start. From this came a molecule that could make crude and simple copies of itself-DNA. This crude DNA eventually got a covering, becoming the cell. From this, plants, fish, reptiles, mammals, tree animals, apes and finally primitive humans evolved.

Charles Darwin attributes this evolution to nature's "Selective Breeding." Better known as "Survival of the Fittest." The easier a creature can adapt to its surroundings, the more likely it is to survive.

CREATION
The idea behind this is simple, God is all powerful and created the universe, laws of physics, matter, and atomic law. God then created the earth from the water of the world. Then he created plants and animals. Then God created man from dust and woman from man's rib.

While in the Garden of Eden man ate of the forbidden fruit and God banished them for disobeying him. He sentenced man to

toil in the sun to grow and gather food. He sentenced woman to obey man and bear children.

This argument touches us all in different ways. It touches our lives at home, science, church, court, and at school. Our schools position on creation/evolution is: The science department teaches evolution as the basis and path of life. The science department can discuss creation as a possibility when brought up in class, but it is not part of the program.

The state of Illinois believes evolution to be a scientific explanation and allows you to use your own judgment as to which theory you choose to believe.

Homecoming Calendar

Thursday — October 15 — Clash Day — All Day
— Coronation (Assembly 3:00)
— Tricycle race — 3:30 — after assembly

Friday — October 16 — School dismissed at 12:00 noon
— Parade line-up 12:30
— Parade begins — 1:30
— Football games with Wheaton-Warrenville 6:00 and 8:00

\$500 award for best essay of driver education

All West Chicago Community High School seniors are eligible to compete for ten \$500 AAA-Chicago Motor Club scholarships which will be awarded to winners of the Illinois Editors' Traffic Safety Seminar's 16th annual traffic safety essay contest.

Topic for this year's contest is "High School Driver Education: Can We Afford It?" The essays of 500 words or less must be submitted to Seminar Headquarters, 66 E. South Water Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601, with a postmark no later than December 31, 1981.

1981.

Top scholarship grants will be awarded to five boys and five girls. The AAA-Chicago Motor Club also will present \$50 U.S. Savings Bonds to the 25 runners-up.

Final judging will be done by a panel of University of Illinois educators. Winners will be announced at the Seminar's annual meeting next May.

Additional entry blanks may be obtained by writing Seminar Headquarters in Chicago. The essay contest has been endorsed by Dr. Donald G. Gill, state superintendent of education.

Medicare Reimbursement Down 40%

Senior citizens are finding Medicare is costing them more and buying them less.

Nationwide, the Medicare claim reimbursement rate is running at 40 to 45 per cent of the billed amount of the claim. This is in sharp contrast with the 80 per cent reimbursement offered at the inception of the Medicare program in 1965.

By 1972 Medicare costs had escalated at such a frightening rate that it became necessary for the Congress to place limitations on the amount of reimbursement for beneficiaries. The present allowance is based on a formula produced by factors other than the Cost of Living Index and is updated in July of each year.

The method does not keep pace with in-

flation. During the past 12 months, the Cost of Living rose about 11.5 per cent, medical care costs jumped 18.7 per cent, while the government's formula was limited to an increase of 7.96 per cent, according to the Health Care Financing Administration.

The lower reimbursement is brought about by the "reasonable and customary charge" limitation set by the Congress as an attempt to restrain abuse of the system. This is not a new budget control. It has governed the reimbursement rate since 1975.

Medicare reimbursement for physician and other non-institutional services under "reasonable charges" are defined as the lesser of:

1) the actual charge made by the physician or supplier, which is the actual charge the supplier of service bills the patient for a service.

2) the customary charge for the service which is the usual charge made by the physician or supplier for services in the 12 months preceding July 1st of each year, and

3) the prevailing charge in the locality for similar service which is an average of customary charges made by 75 per cent of physicians or suppliers in a locality.

Differences in fields of practice are considered. It is generally the prevailing rate that most often is used to determine Medicare benefit reimbursements.

WCCHS loses 383½ lbs.

by Jackie Thomason

How did WCCHS lose 383½ lbs. over the 1981 summer?

Over the summer coach Robert Hein wanted to lose some extra weight. He thought that by having other faculty members join him it would be easier, therefore he started a Weight Control Club.

In order to join the club, each member had to have another member verify their current weight. Then they wrote out a \$20 check to their partner which designated specific date. Weigh-ins were held every Friday how much they intended to weigh by a day.

Fifteen faculty members participated with the men losing a total of 241½ lbs. and the women losing 142 lbs. Only four people didn't make their intended weight and lost their \$20.

This fall 26 faculty members joined Mr. Heins Weight Control Club. Sixteen plan to lose weight and 10 plan to maintain their current weight.

All members of this fall's club must meet their goals by December 18.

Germans cheer soccer

by Sheila Hodges

The German Club went to a soccer game, which just happens to be the German national sport, to cheer the boys on. They also sold programs at the Naperville North game. Right now they are working hard on their fenstek, ordering German t-shirts, and planning a dinner for after homecoming.

The Spanish Club is also working hard on their float, and are planning a Friday night outing consisting of dinner and a movie from Spain.

The French Club has already had their French dinner. French songs were played and there was plenty of food. They are also working on their fenstek.

The Drama Club is planning a float for the parade and are getting involved in fund raisers. The production of "Dracula" will be out in November on the fifth, sixth, and seventh with auditions for "A Christmas Carol" the following week.

The music Department has planned a concert for October 22. Concert Choir, Swing Choir, Orchestra, and Madrigals will also be on the agenda.

Workshop offered

by Robin Marvin

A skills workshop is being held weekly for students interested. As started last October 8th, any student who wishes to attend 2, one hour sessions can earn enough credits as serving five regular detentions. The classes are on a first come first serve basis, allowing up to 20 students at a time. For more information contact Mrs. Sered-Zabelin or the office sign-up sheet.

Loans approved

by Kim Hook

Rent-A Student program and collecting aluminum cans were two suggestions for fund raising discussed at the student council meeting.

Tina Howard will serve as parliamentarian for the second consecutive year to make sure that the meetings are run in an orderly manner.

Student Council was asked to form an intramural volleyball team, but refused.

It was decided that the council would lend money to various clubs for their Homecoming floats.

These minutes were taken from the September 22 meeting held in room 232.

New showers okayed

by Bill Recchia & Sue Lindenmier

On September 22, the district #94 board of education approved the proposal for a new hot water boiler and new showers for the locker rooms. The cost of the boiler is \$24,597 and \$26,863 for the showers.

The board also approved a new alarm system for the swimming pool at the cost of \$975. The previous alarm system was subject to corrosion.

16th ANNUAL

Illinois Editors' Traffic Safety Seminar Contest
\$5,000 AAA-Chicago Motor Club Scholarship Grant
(10 Winners—5 boys and 5 girls—\$500 Each)
All Illinois High School Seniors Eligible!

ENTRY BLANK

_____ 1981

This completely filled-in blank must be attached to an original 500-word-or-less traffic safety essay on the subject:

**HIGH SCHOOL DRIVER EDUCATION:
CAN WE AFFORD IT?**

Mail to Seminar Headquarters at 66 East South Water Street, Chicago, Ill. 60601. (All entries must be postmarked no later than December 31, 1981.)

(Please PRINT)

Mr. _____
 Miss _____

First Name Last Name

Street Address _____ Home Phone Number _____

City or Town _____ Zip Code _____

High School (Name and Address) _____

Name of Local Newspaper _____

We-go student's choices: starvation or poverty

The ten minute wait in line, the tray with veggies, dessert, the featured entree and milk, if you are a frequenter to our lunch lines, this is what you may see.

The quality of our food hasn't necessarily gone down and neither has the quantity, but the extreme change this year is the price.

Last year, as of April 1, WCCHS encountered a 15 cent increase in hot lunches from 60 to 75 cents, and milk also being raised 5 cents. This year lo and behold, another increase, angering many and breaking even more. This year our lunch prices started at \$1.10, and milk 15 cents, a 35 cent increase in hot lunch and another 5 cents in milk!

These increases are not just for hot lunches and milk, but for every semi-edible item in the lunch lines.

Our higher lunch prices and empty wallets, not to mention stomachs, are due to President Ronald Reagan's inflation-cutting tactics.

We are not alone. School lunch programs across the nation have seen drastic reductions in federal subsidies that before enabled students to pay a relatively low price for lunch. There really isn't much we as students can do, unless we all go out and find part-time jobs contributing to the decrease in unemployment. Maybe this is Reagan's ulterior motive. So, why don't we just grit our teeth, keep our rumbling stomachs quiet and try to bear it. Complaining rarely gets us anywhere.

Letter to the Editor

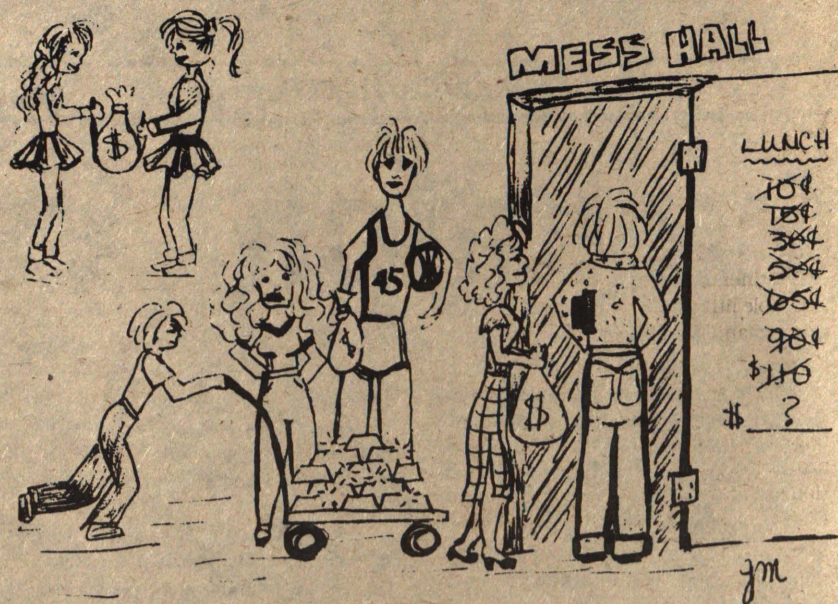
Off beat letter strikes note of Pep Band dischord

Dear Editor,

In response to Jeane Murray's "Letter to the Editor" published in the September 25, 1981 issue, it is my opinion that the Band, Cheerleaders, and Pom-Pon Squad are NOT responsible for boring Pep Assemblies. She could not have been serious! The Band (of which I am a member) plays the music the Pom-Pon Squad wants for their routine. Marching and Pep Band music does cost money, money that the Music Department just doesn't have in its very small budget. Even when Pep Assemblies occur during our concert season, we try to make sure that we do not play the same music at any two Pep Assemblies. To us, different pep tunes do not sound alike. The Band rarely is thanked for participating in Assemblies, even when it is our option whether or not to take part.

Written by Polly Hall

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Carol Cowden | Mike Karp | Steve Bahlmann | Sam McAdams |
| Mike Sosulski | Mike Welz | Lynn Arnold | Frank Karp |
| Stuart Schuette | Carolyn Krumin | Dave Bahlmann | Mike Mackey |
| Cheri Dlouhy | Ken Smith | Julie Zenos | Kevin Getz |
| Karen Frommert | Colleen Kennedy | Gregg Vandine | Cara Dieter |
| Penny Berendson | Terri Whitlock | Lisa Brown | Keith Snyder |
| Sharon Sostak | Robert Davis | Kathy Hennessy | Steve Heyden |
| Kathy Belli | Amy Bloxam | Edward Rahe | Robina Montana |
| Chris Wagoner | Cathy Brauer | Sandy Lettieri | John Devereux |
| Lisa Yunker | Kris Newhoff | Nancy Binzen | Marcia Olto |
| Bill Gebhardt | Linda Choe | Bryan Stewart | Jodi Galedci |
| Jay Nelson | Becky Welz | Eugene Wagner | Ingrid Ievans |
| Sharon Elslager | Laura Kinsey | Cecilia Csukor | Cheryl Cifelli |



Board of Education holds important election

This year's upcoming Board of Education election will be held November 3, and will be different from Board elections of the past several years.

Norma P. Wienecke, the incumbent for the resigned Richard A. Gatehouse, will be running unopposed for the upcoming two year term.

The difference this year from the past several years, is that we have three people running for two positions. These are four year terms, recently changed by the Consolidation Election Law from three year terms.

The candidates are Marvin Beckman, who has been a member of the Board for the past six years; John J. Schlenker, who filled Robert G. Westrom's term the past year; and Michael Sosulski, who has not been on the Board.

Although this election may not be of much interest to you, it should be. The Board of Education is very influential in our school, and we need the right people. It is a real shame, but not unusual, that Mrs. Wienecke is running unopposed.

This election could be very important to our school so urge your parents to vote November 3.

Religious censorship, Moral Majority's quest

by Henry Bryan

Religion, Falwell, God and censorship, all bring one thing to my mind, the Moral Majority. The Moral Majority is a self-proclaimed group of religious fanatics who want to "clean up the media in the name of God."

What has this got to do with me? Simple. Anyone who watches TV, listens to radio, or reads books should know. This Moral Majority is trying to control what you and I can read, see and hear. Take for example the book *Show Me* or the network's system of T and A programming. To me, the very idea of someone who is half crazy with religion trying to censor my incoming media is an infringement of my rights.

This religious censorship could be said to have begun in the 1950's and you can see this if you watch the old films, the kinescopes. From then, certain things were taboo, religion, abortion, drinking, sex and (gasp) underwear. As a matter of fact, if you look close you will see that in early TV they never did a close up shot below the waist.

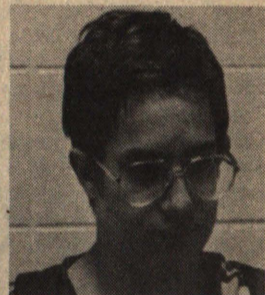
All this, and still they weren't satisfied. So, they must have thought, "Hey, now let's censor commercials for God ..." Amongst the commercials of the time, were spots for beer or alcohol, cigarettes, cigars and chewing tobacco. Those were all banned. The Moral Majority didn't say what to stop directly, but NAB (National Association of Broadcasters) made suggestions to have them stopped to the networks, and the suggestions were usually followed.

But where did these ideas come from? Did NAB say this, or did someone or someones have their little gospel hands in on it? To me it is too much of a coincidence that religious views matched up with the NAB recommendations.

Ever since TV was commercially possible, religious parties have tried to censor TV to their way of thinking, to make TV programs "pure and moral in the eyes of the Lord" and help "preach the gospel."

If this were to happen it would pose a problem. Each religion would want TV their way. How many religions are there or aren't there? The Atheists are handily represented. We would have to sit down to the TV for something and get religion and gospel every 30 seconds. Speaking as an Atheist, I don't want myself or my children (especially my children) to sit at the TV for entertainment and get this religious bologna rammed down their throats every time they turn the channel.

With all these present and possible future problems, can anyone deny the existence of the Moral Majority and the fact that they are trying to censor public media with their views and their religion.



The Bridge

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326 Joliet
West Chicago, IL 60185
phone 231-0880 ext. 268

The Bridge 1st place winner of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association and the American Scholastic Press Association. Memberships include those of the Kettle Moraine Press Association, Eastern Illinois High School Press Association and the Illinois High School Press Association.

The Bridge is the student newspaper of West Chicago Community High School. The Bridge office is located in room 216.

Letters to the editor are not to exceed 250 words and must be legibly signed. We reserve the right to edit if necessary, for length or libelous material.

Content and editorial policy are determined by the editors with concurrence of The Bridge editorial staff. The adviser acts in the capacity of a professional consultant. The opinions expressed in the paper are not necessarily those of the student body of the high school.

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Continental Divide

High comedy at its peak

by John Watanabe

Continental Divide is a very funny and enjoyable little item featuring John Belushi as a romantic comedy star. Yes moviegoers, this is no joke. It's only natural that the Hollywood star-gazing public would expect another loud, raunchy slapsticker with Belushi gruntin' and groanin' and clowning around for two hours. But the 1967 Homecoming king from Wheaton Central High has stepped out of that image, and in his latest film venture, he has triumphantly reached a new peak in high comedy.

This flick was made in part in the Windy City last November. Belushi plays a **Sun-Times** columnist who receives raves from his fans for his hard-hitting columns savagely attacking a Chi-town alderman named Yablonowitz. Of course, not everybody gets a kick out of reading these stories. The popular newspaperman gets

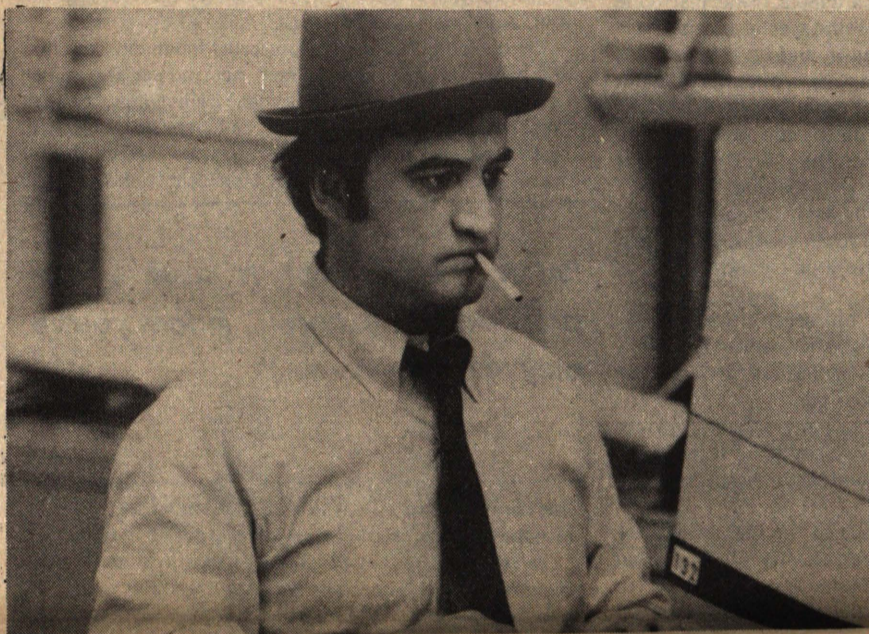
much.

Belushi, of course, is the film's central figure, and I am really proud to say that he does a fine job in what is his first real subtle acting role. In both of his previous gorilla hits, **Animal House** and **The Blues Brothers** (two of the greatest and most uproarious comedies ever made), Belushi was cast as a comic strip-looking character who got laughs by smashing up cars, impersonating pimples, and breaking beer bottles over his head. But in **Continental Divide**, Belushi plays your average, mild-mannered city man who provides a chuckle a minute with his Woody Allen-like soliloquies and wise-cracks on the unfamiliar surroundings around him.

Continental Divide opened to blockbuster crowds all over the Chicago area, proving that Chicago supports its very own. However, the film did soft business



The new Belushi: he is not an animal, he is an actor!



John Belushi as a newspaperman in **Continental Divide**.

beat up one night in a Loop alley by two of Alderman Yablonowitz's thugs, who are disguised as Chicago fuzz.

The **Sun-Times** managing editor suggests that his star columnist should get out of town and return when things simmer down. This turning point in the plot is an unrealistic situation and an insult to the **Sun-Times**. Any intelligent newspaper person will tellya that an editor wouldn't let his columnist back away from an incident like this; this is sure-fire kick donkey front page news!

Anyway, so much for the journalism lecture. The managing editor then manages to get his Chicagoan reporter to go to the Rocky Mountains to do an interview with a lady ornithologist (played by Blair Brown, last seen in that far-out special effects ride (**Altered States**) who is very much in favor of saving the American bald eagle.

This mountain mama is a very tough little creature who gives the mild-mannered city reporter a hard time at first, thus setting up for an uncommonly good, old-fashioned romantic comedy. The Rocky Mountains scenery is extremely beautiful, and is a terrific help to Miss Brown when she explains why she loves the wilderness so

elsewhere — maybe because it has trouble finding the right steady audience. One gets the impression that some teenagers will be disappointed that their comic cult hero is not doing another raucous **Animal House**-type number, while the over 40 crowd (some of whom flip on David Susskind every week

instead of **Saturday Night Live**) may not have any interest in its principal star.

This is a shame, because **Continental Divide** is a very amiable and pleasant fun flick, that, unlike **Animal House**, is entertainment that a kid won't be embarrassed to take his easy-to-shock parents to. Rating for **Continental Divide** — three stars.



Foreigner Four

Foreigner traveling into new sounds

by Rick Cesario

With a band like Foreigner, one usually expects the same old sound which dates back to their first album. That is not entirely true on their latest LP simply entitled

most being well over four minutes. The group is getting away from the simple pop rock sound and getting into heavier rock. They go from the former sound as in **Hot Blooded** and **Double Vision**, hits off their second album, to **Night Life on Four**, which



Four (how original).

After several changes in the band, Foreigner now has four members instead of the original six. Although no drastic changes have been made in the Foreigner sound, it seems as though they have stopped just reading words off of a piece of paper. They have gotten more active in their music.

It looks as though they are attempting to get out of just being known as a top 40 group. **Four** has much longer songs, with

surges with Foreigner's energy. The album also features a great variance in the style of the music. **Woman in Black**, is a hard rocking song with a beginning that sounds like it's from the group UFO, and **Waiting For a Girl Like You** is a slow ballad. **Girl Like You** has the possibility to become a single as do most of the other songs.

Four is a definite must for any Foreigner fan and might even change some people's ideas who don't like the group.

They will be appearing November 8, at the Rosemont Horizon with Billy Squier.

Howard horsin' around

by Bill Recchia

Last summer, driver education teacher Richard Howard discovered a talent he didn't know he had; pitching horseshoes.

It all started when Howard visited a park in St. Charles and saw some men playing horseshoes. "I developed a quick interest in the sport," Howard said. "I used to go and watch the best."

This interest led to hours of practice a day. It payed off at the end of last summer when he captured second place in a tournament.

Howard entered two leagues this past summer, one in St. Charles, and the other in Aurora. He won awards for high point average in St. Charles, and best win percen-



tage in Aurora.

When asked what he liked most about the game, Howard replied, "I love the competition, because it's always you against someone else. It really gets your adrenalin flowing."

He then added, "All you do is set up two stakes, get a couple of horseshoes, and you're set. You don't need a whole bunch of special equipment. You can have fun for hours."

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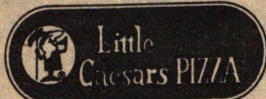
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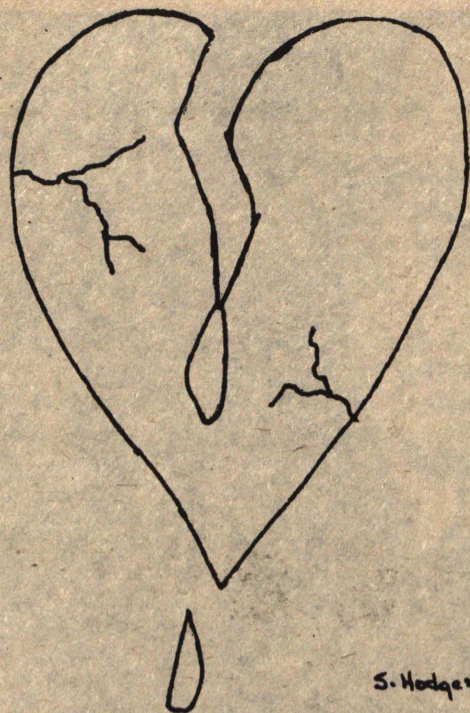
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Is someone you know suicidal?

by Robin Marvin

Your best friend is the smartest, happiest, and most athletic person you know. One day he says that he'd be better off dead — for no apparent reason. That whole week, he is quiet and moody. You tell yourself he'll get over it. The next day your friend is dead.

This is not a typical thing in everyone's life. Yet, some people may come face to face with a suicidal person and not even realize it.

It is normal for most people to get depressed at one time or another, and it's often easier to label someone depressed rather than suicidal. There are signs or indicators that you, as a friend, can recognize.

The most noticeable sign is prolonged depression and withdrawal. When people avoid confrontation, or people that are talkative suddenly socially withdraw over a long period of time, one can assume that a problem exists.

However, social withdrawal alone may not actually tell you if a person is suicidal. A number of other factors may occur, such as the giving away of personal possessions. Usually they are expensive valuables that a person cherished. These no longer have any meaning.

A person may also start talking about death or dying. They would probably say something like "I wonder what life would be like without me" or "I wish I was dead" or even "Maybe I'd be better off dead."

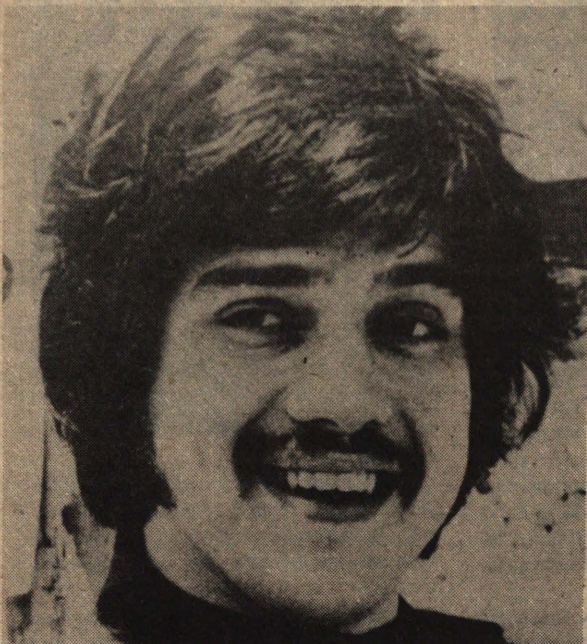
A person who has made previous suicide attempts is often likely to try again. If a friend has tried suicide before, and goes into prolonged depression once again, no one could be blamed for being concerned.

Another indicator may be an increase in drug consumption. Still, so many students use drugs recreationally. It could be difficult to tell if there is a sufficient increase, or a real problem.

A great misconception about suicidal people is that they are trouble makers. People think that the kids take on the "I don't care about anything" attitude and cause trouble. In discussion with Mr. Hein, health instructor, and Kirby Strohm, the school's social worker, in a percentage of cases here in the area, the "victim" has been "alienated," or "lost in their own world."

Problems at home are another indicator. If your friend's parents are divorced or separated your friend may suffer a loss or a feeling of guilt. If he's getting abused emotionally or sexually or even being ignored, this can add to a possible suicide attempt.

If you do notice any of these indicators, don't delay in getting help. Remember that the school's guidance department will keep these matters confidential.



At the peak of his acting career, Freddie Prinze shot himself with a .32 caliber pistol.

S u i c i d e

by Lauren Vogt

Webster's dictionary defines suicide as, "The act or the instance of taking one's own life voluntarily and intentionally; SELF DESTRUCTION."

A junior girl claims she's attempted suicide three times. The first attempt was a split decision and she thought she really wanted to die. She realized after the attempt was over, however, it was just a form of seeking attention. The second try again resulted in wanting attention, but the third attempt was serious enough for her to search for help, because she honestly hoped to kill herself.

She didn't consider the consequences of a failed attempt, she just thought she'd die and that would be the end of it.

Her attempts were brought on by depression caused by the "usual things", losing a boyfriend, parents getting divorced, and having problems at school.

Nothing specific triggered the attempts. It was just, "One more thing," she said. "It was nothing special. It could have been as dumb as someone kidding around."

At the time, she figured the endeavors were worth it, but now she states she wouldn't do it again. Her friends helped her through her period of adjustment and were "very understanding." Her mother, on the other hand, didn't want anyone to know and didn't like talking about it.

Her life has shaped up since the last attempt. She's gotten involved with the church and youth groups. She figures now, "If God wanted me to die, He'd kill me. Besides, it's a sin."

In a way, she both regrets it, but doesn't regret it. She considers suicide wrong, but if she hadn't tried, she wouldn't have known how much her friends cared and she wouldn't have gotten involved with God.

She's found out people who consider suicide convince themselves that everyone would be better off if he or she died. "A lot of people think that and it's simply not true," she said.

Kirby Strohm, the social worker at the high school, encounters three to four serious suicide attempts a year that result in some kind of critical injury. These mainly occur because of severe family problems and extreme punishment that sometimes even result in child abuse. These people weren't aware of their rights and didn't know where to turn to for help. They figured they didn't have any alternatives other than death.

According to Strohm, people that seem to say, "I need help and no one is hearing me," are the ones that are just searching for attention. These people either talk about suicide so others will notice them, or have an attempt resulting in a minor injury. People who don't really want to kill themselves have to be very careful about how they go about their suicide attempts, Strohm said. They could make a mistake and receive a serious injury. The final result could be embarrassing for themselves and others.

Strohm said that one attempt would be enough for people who weren't truly serious about suicide. That one try

would be enough to, "Scare the hell out of them," and realize suicide is not fun. He thinks that people who are serious about killing themselves wouldn't need multiple pursuits. The first try would get the job done.

Strohm encourages friends and teachers to be aware of people who are talking about suicide. "We can't take a chance," he said. "We can't play games with people's lives."

For people who know someone who is discussing suicide, Strohm suggests to, "Demand they go seek help, or refuse to be their friend anymore."

Strohm's job is to try and provide alternatives for depressed people, instead of having them try and kill themselves. He says that those alternatives might not be fun, and they could even be painful, but they're "Certainly a lot better than suicide."

One senior boy claimed he attempted suicide seven times within a period of three years. "I was terribly messed up," he said. "And I really abused myself."

He stated that his parents expected too much from him and he just couldn't match their expectations. "No matter how hard I tried, I just couldn't make them happy," he said. The pressures from his parents combined with seeing his best friend die of cancer drove him into "severe mental depression." He broke off ties completely from his other

"After the attempt is over ... the problem is still there ... in fact you've only made it worse ..."

friends and stayed strictly to himself. "I would pretend to be invisible," he expressed. "I tried to make myself that way."

He realizes now that all his attempts were cries for help. His efforts were done where he knew someone would find him. "I even tried to slit my wrists during a party once," he stated.

Each time he tried to kill himself, he honestly hoped he'd die. He wished to punish his parents for putting him under so much pressure. "They wouldn't even admit I had a problem," he said. "They thought I was just going through some kind of stage."

Life has improved for him since his last endeavor a year ago. He has moved away from his parents and has found a job he enjoys. He's begun writing poetry and hopes to have some published one day.

He doesn't regret having tried suicide. "I think the attempts make me grow up a lot," he said, but he doesn't think he'd ever try again. "After the attempt is over and you find out you're still alive, the problem is still there. It hasn't gone away. In fact, you've only made it worse."

*Through early morning fog I see
Visions of the things to be
The pains that are withheld for me.
I realize and I can see,
(To Chorus)*

*That suicide is painless,
It brings on many changes,
And I can take or leave it if I please.*

*The game of life is hard to play,
I'm going to lose it anyway,
The losing card I'll someday lay,
So this is all I have to say,
(To chorus)*

*That suicide is painless,
It brings on many changes,
And I can take or leave it if I please.*

— Taken from the
Song From "M*A*S*H"
(Suicide Is Painless)
Words and Music by
Mike Altman and
Johnny Mandel



MUSIC

I heard the music
'twas born of man
and being so
burned
I turned and ran

I kept on going
'til I reached the end
searching in vain
for a single friend

I finally lost
all track of my kind
because of a friend
I could not find

I left humanity
to hate by itself
and I left my soul
on a dusty shelf

Suicide is not a game for many teenagers ...

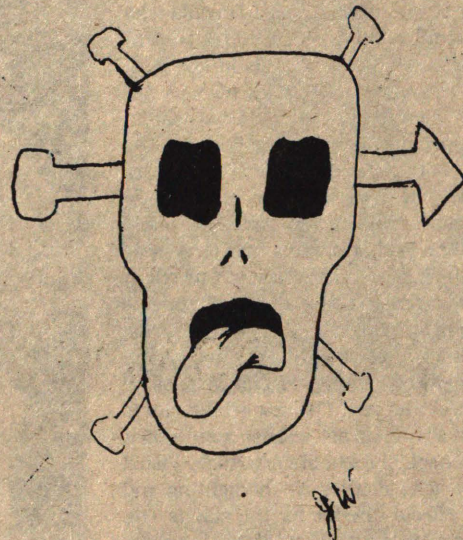
by Debbie Hookham

Why do young people commit suicide? Family problems and pressures are the major cause, according to a study released recently.

In history, males have been regarded as committers of suicide while females are viewed as attempters. There is usually a lack of a close father-son relationship because of death or divorce, which results in feelings of rejection or anxiety. The suicidal female is usually the product of a self-centered mother.

A study done in February, found that the parents of suicide-prone teen-agers drank more and had a lower self-image. Fathers were usually depressed and anxious, and many mothers had often considered suicide themselves.

Other causes of suicide include the loss of a loved one, despair at the threatened loss of an important relationship,



failures and insecurities by using children as extensions of themselves. This then blocks out any other communication from their children. These children feel that the only way to earn their parent's approval is to be perfect.

Suicide intent is usually a temporary state of mind. Given the opportunity to clear their heads, it seems that most vic-

... family problems are a major cause of suicide ...

money pressures, identity problems, or high academic competition. These things all contribute to feelings of anonymity and isolation.

The American Association of Suicidology estimates that suicide claims 35,000 lives each year. The actual number may be closer to 100,000 since many deaths are covered up or reported as accidents. A growing number of the suicides occur in people in their teens or early twenties. In fact, the number of teen-age suicides has nearly doubled in 10 years. Suicide is now thought to be the second leading cause of death in young people.

Current trends indicate that youths who committed suicide found that their efforts to express their unhappiness, frustration or failure was unacceptable to their

... the number of teenage suicides have doubled in 10 years ... now the second leading cause of death in young people.

tims would choose to live. Since many decisions are impulsive, threats of suicide must be taken seriously. The person who talks of a specific plan with well-worked out details and timing is a very high suicide risk. Other high-risk people include those that have attempted suicide before.

Suicidal youths all have one thing in common — a lack of optimism, lack of hope about the future, and an enormous sense of unhappiness.

... approximately ninety percent feel their family does not understand them

parents. Their feelings were ignored, denied, or met by defensive hostility. Approximately ninety percent felt that their families did not understand them. These teens sometimes feel that they will be getting back at someone else by making them feel guilty.

Studies show that parents push their children to be successes. These parents try to compensate for their own



Help available, for those who want it

by Silvia Belicke

If you were suddenly confronted by a good friend telling you he was going to kill himself, what would you do?

Chances are you wouldn't recognize this as a call for help and think he was just joking. However, he does kill himself and you blame yourself for not taking him seriously.

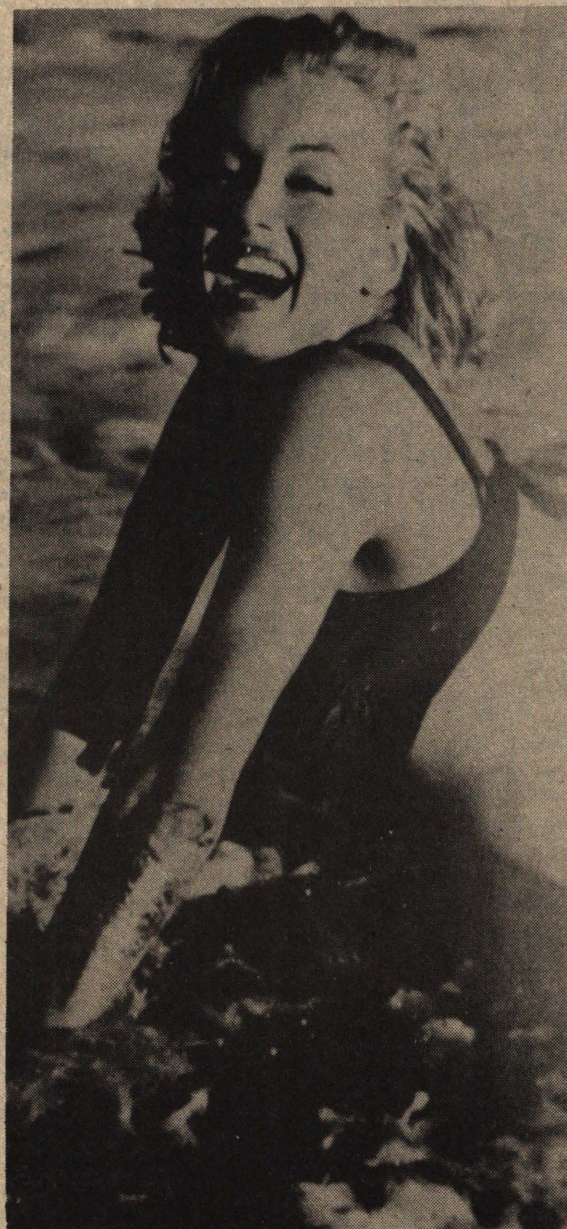
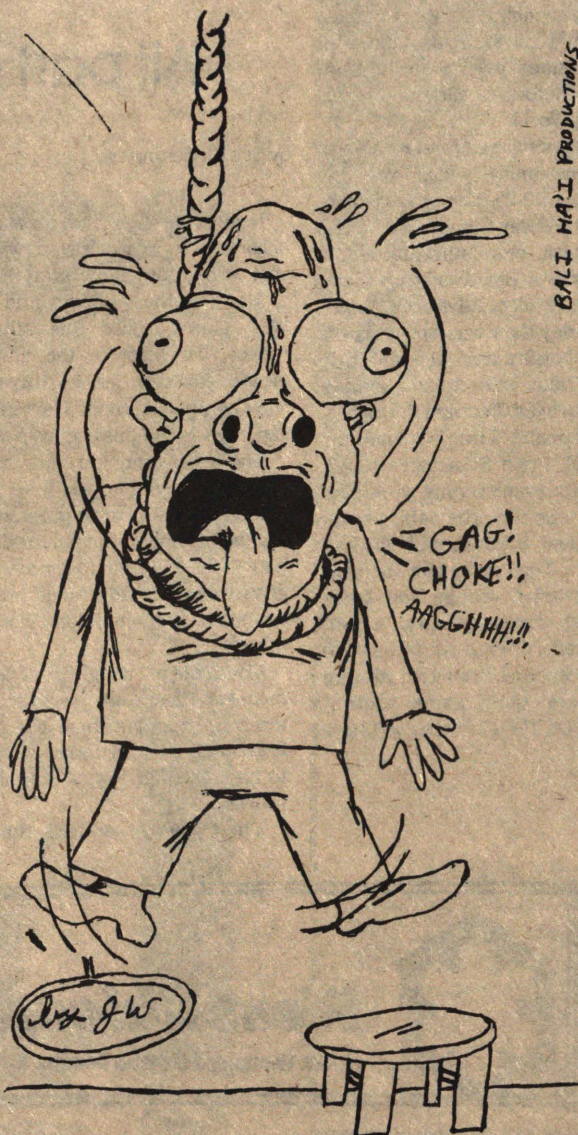
There are many things a person as a friend or family member can do.

According to Jane Tempest, social service assistant at DuPage County Health Center, "The best support is just to listen and watch the person for various signs, ... such as withdrawal and depression." Many times they want people to talk to. You can also refer them to clergymen, psychiatrists, or social workers for help.

Also, various counseling centers have easily accessible phone numbers and people that are willing to talk. The suicide hotline, operated by Reed Hospital in Chicago, is open 24 hours a day and can be reached by calling 794-3609. Metro-help, another service, can be reached at 929-5150.

There is a counseling center for the prevention of suicide, run by qualified police officers with degrees in social service, that has branches in Wheaton and Carol Stream. The Wheaton number is 260-2161 and ask for Officer Ralph Singer. For Carol Stream, call 668-2167 and request Officer Gil Watson.

There IS something a concerned person can do to help, even by just referring them to counseling.



Marilyn dead at the age of 36 by an overdose of sleeping pills.

Dracula bound to be a biting success

by Ed Rahe

For those of you who enjoy a good fright every once in awhile, the Fall play, "Dracula", should be your cup of tea.

Unlike last year's Fall play "Harvey", this year's play is designed to be more of an eerie drama than a comedy. The play focuses on the life of the undead Count Dracula who must resort to biting people on the neck in order to survive. Dracula falls in love with Lucy Westenra which causes obvious difficulties and forms the basic foundation upon which the plot of the play rests.

Some of the roles have double cast, due to the relatively large number of well-done auditions, according to director Connie Relias. The lead of Dracula is portrayed by Tim Rathjen and Jan Matthysen. The role of Lucy Westenra will be played by Stephanie Espig and Ann Stezer.

Behind the scenes, the set director and lighting/special effects director are new to the school this year. The new set director is Heidi McClure, an art teacher from Indian Knoll School. The school's new Audio-Visual director, who doubles as the lighting and special effects director for the play is Tim Ritchhart. He is a graduate of the University of Northern Iowa with a degree in media.

Although this is Tim Ritchhart's first job, he is not without experience. He has worked behind the scenes in high school and states that "There is less pressure on me now than there was in graduate school." He also said that he "will be more of a student than the students" because of his unfamiliarity with this particular school. This will probably lead to having a little more responsibility than usual among the more experienced members of the lighting crew.

The student response to the play, at this early stage, has been one of eagerness and excitement according to Miss Relias. She

also stated that things are "going well so far" and that she is "very enthusiastic about the play." Miss Relias finally said that she



The cast of **Dracula** sinks their teeth into their first rehearsals. (photo by Mike Sitarz)

has "no doubt at all" about the success of the play.

November 5, 6, 7 and a Sunday matinee on the 8th will be the performance dates for the play. These will be the only times that the public will be able to experience the feeling eeriness that encompasses the classic version of "Dracula".

PEGR rocks We-go

by Robin Marvin

The first "All School Dance" took place after the West Chicago-Wheaton North football game on Friday, September 25th. The group PEGR made their first appearance at our high school.

PEGR consists of four members, Pete Craig, vocals and guitar; Steve Lawson, lead guitarist; George Fender, vocals and bass guitar; and Dave Casey, vocals and drums.

Also with the group that night were stage technicians Bryan Fries and Ted Lieblich, who spent an hour to an hour and a half

years each. George is a five year veteran, age 21. Dave, 20, replied that he had been playing for seven years.

The group itself has only been together for somewhere between nine months to a year.

In this short time PEGR has played the Edgewater, Haymakers, Rock-it North, and Beginnings, prior to its closing. One of the groups' largest audiences was at Pointe-East where PEGR opened up for Iron Maiden in front of a crowd of 3,000. Each of the musicians agreed that their favorite group was Iron Maiden, a British rock



PEGR: Pete Craig, Steve Lawson, Dave Casey, and George Fender

setting up.

They were asked what possible goals they were setting for themselves. They replied by saying that PEGR hoped to release a single in about eight months. The group and their manager, Chip Hooper, also wish to tour 15 different states in the next year. In the next three years or so, the group hopes to have a larger recording deal.

Each member was also asked his age and how long he had been playing. Pete and Steve, both 18, have been playing for four

group. PEGR does write and play their own songs, but for dances, such as ours, they stick to the top 40's scene (Journey, REO).

When asked what they thought of our school, PEGR said they enjoyed playing here very much and hoped to return soon. Dave gave away an assorted amount of drumsticks while Steve and Pete lost quite a few guitar picks.

PEGR is a group represented by a private entertainment establishment. To obtain a number of where to reach the group, you should get in touch with the BRIDGE.

Homecomings away from home

by Robin Marvin

For most schools Homecoming was a special time of year. The week was full of competition and the chance to support your school.

Close to home, Wheaton's St. Francis Spartans took on Montini head to head in a challenging game. The Spartans also had a powderpuff football game. Their theme this year was a lot like ours last year, based on the Wild Wild West. The students dressed up on their specified days around the theme.

Also in the area, Wheaton Christian's Homecoming was a double event. The school concentrated on beating Wheaton North in soccer and St. Francis at football. They fired up by the crowning of their king and queen and a large bonfire the night before the game. Their theme, I Am.

Out in Glen Ellyn, Glenbard South celebrated its 10th birthday during their week of Homecoming. The events during October 5-10 were based on the theme "It's Magic." Their week was very competitive, beginning with a class tug of war on Monday and a Dress-Up-Backwards-Day on Tuesday. On Wednesday each class was assigned a separate color to wear, followed by "Sign Day" with a hall decorating contest on Thursday. During Friday everyone wore red, white, and blue, their school colors, and they participated at a pep rally and bonfire. Saturday was a busy day with the parade, the game against Wheaton Central, Alumni Tea, and their dance "This Magic Moment."

The circus came to Naperville the week of October 5-10 as Naperville North celebrated their Homecoming. Their theme was what else? "Under the Big Top." Their week began with a wishing well contest, a competition with who could guess the weight of their "husky" deans office, and "The Greatest Show on Earth" assembly where their queen was coronated. Tuesday was "Paint the Town Day," with a door decorating contest. Wednesday the school sold cotton candy, and housed a strongman sledgeham-

mer contest, while on Thursday the winner was the fattest class. On Friday Naperville North played Wheaton Warrenville after that morning's pep assembly, "A Circus Comes to Town." Saturday the students danced to the band Contagious from 8 to 11 that night to their victory celebration dance titled "Colour My World."

Across town Naperville Central recovered from their Homecoming which was the week of September 20-25. The school joined the town in its birthday theme, Sesquicentennial, proud task, promising future. On Monday, there was a Broadway-type show, sponsored by the Student Advisory Council, while on Wednesday there was a powderpuff football game, a bonfire, and pep rally. But unfortunately Friday rained their parade out, yet they still played Glenbard North.

It was "A Special Time" theme for Wheaton Central. From September 13-17, the school had its Homecoming week. The 13th there was a bonfire, the 14th a punk party dress-up and a powderpuff football game, the 15th a Toga party and the next day's events included orange and black (school colors) dress-up day, a pep breakfast, a parade downtown, coronation of king and queen and finally an Alumni Reception before their game against Wheaton North. On the 17th they will have their dance.

All part of the routine

by Sue Lindenmeier

How would it feel to have Mom or Dad at school all day long? Or what would one do if their son or daughter was on the job?

Many of the students and teachers at West Chicago face this situation every school day. Most of the students interviewed, however, felt no threat by having their parents in school. The teacher-parents especially found this occurrence enjoyable.

The most common complaint of both parent and child is that many times other teachers discuss various matters concerning the child with the parent during school hours. This, in many students' opinion, gives them a disadvantage over other students whose parents don't work within the school.

Lisa Yunker, daughter of Math department head, Lee Yunker, said that in the past teachers' comments have affected her life at home. Lisa and her father have since come to an understanding which alleviates this problem.

Cheri Waterhouse feels that her father,

Richard Waterhouse, is unbiased in every way toward her. In fact she says that people are wrong if they think she can "get off if she gets in trouble." Cheri thinks she would "get it harder" if she ever did anything wrong.

Carol and Mark Cowden think that there is a definite plus in having their father at school. They noted the "convenience" of having him nearby if they ever needed anything. Lee Yunker feels that Lisa also has an advantage over other students in some ways. He "knows the school program" and can advise her on what courses to take "better than the average parent." Richard Waterhouse agrees with this concept in some respect. He thinks Cheri is lucky to have him there to advise her, but admits with a laugh, "The only time I really see her is when she needs lunch money."

From the students and their teacher-parents' point of view, this type of situation is acceptable. According to them, it's "all part of the routine."



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Homecoming opponent tough to figure out

by Michelle Monroe

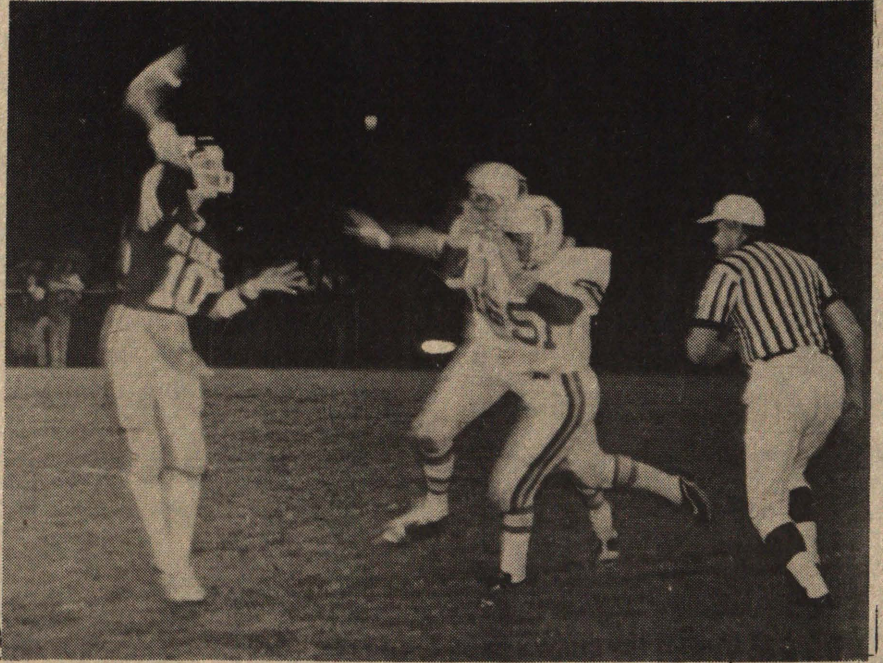
The highlight of We-go's Homecoming week will be their Friday night game against the Wheaton-Warrenville Wolverines. With Wheaton-Warrenville's 6'5", 210 pound quarterback, Kevin Brown (who is said to be the best quarterback in the conference) what kind of a chance do we stand?

When comparing the two teams, Head Coach Larry Parker said he felt the Wolverines "had a better passing game." However, he was quick to add that the Wildcats "have the better running game." Fullback, Don Barlass has had to carry more of a burden due to Rob Ream's injury. Barlass is really important to our running game. We're really happy with his performance this year, Parker stated.

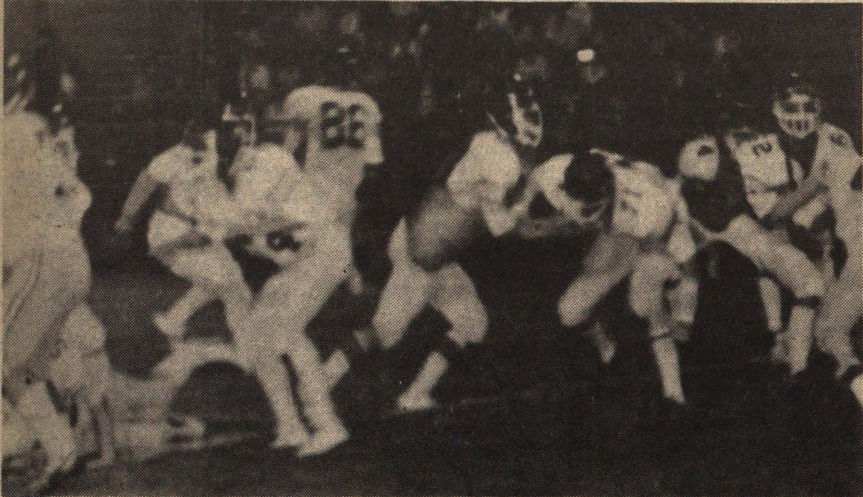
Parker continued his praise saying he's especially happy with linebacker, Russ Donovan and offensive guard, Ken Strayve. "Donovan has been an exceptionally good fill for Ream. This has been a pleasant surprise." Parker also called Strayve "the most consistent offensive player we have right now."

The Wildcats have the edge over Wheaton-Warrenville on defense according to Coach Parker's claim "Warrenville looks young and they lack experience, but they should smooth this out eventually."

Parker went on to compliment the Wolverines coach, Ross Trumper. Trumper was an assistant coach at Wheaton-Warrenville for three years, and "makes good use of his personnel. He's a very good



Jesse Schramer tries to get his pass off just seconds before the defensive rush attacks.



The Wildcats are shown here in intrasquad competition in preparation for the '81 season.

coach."

Thus far in the season the Wolverines have played at both extremes, good and awful. In their game against St. Charles, they were trampled 40-14. However, just two weeks ago, Wheaton-Warrenville beat Wheaton Central 21-20 in a surprising overtime victory.

Early this year the Wildcats beat St. Charles easily, with Rich Browning scoring

three touchdowns. "Although there have been three or four games played since we or Warrenville have played St. Charles, I think it will be in the back of their (the players) minds," stated Parker.

Coach Parker said he hated Homecoming games due to the fact that "it's easy to lose track of the game." But he feels if they "gear their attention to the game, we'll have a real good shot at winning."

Cross Country fading

by Mike O'Connor

Steve Arnold's enthusiasm over the cross-country season has slowly dwindled, along with the size of his team. Almost half of the original team members dropped out at some time during the season.

The year began encouragingly with a turnout of 28 runners. "It was the first time we'd ever had full teams," said Arnold. "I finally had enough people interested to put five members on each team."

The girls team, which Arnold also coaches, "fell apart" shortly after it was formed. The girls started out rather impressively with nine members. Arnold was then able to form his first girls varsity cross-country team ever. While they continue to compete, there are only three girls remaining.

Although the team is now fairly small, Arnold feels they have made some "definite accomplishments." "We really have made some great improvements this year," Arnold affir-

med. After five meets We-Go has won four of them. They have won two meets against Wheaton Central. The team has also scored victories over St. Francis and Aurora East. Success, even in moderation, is a new feeling for We-go cross-country.

Coach Arnold praised all cross-country runners endlessly, but noted a few athletes as "truly outstanding." On the varsity level Arnold mentioned junior, Tim Lambert and Neal Nix for "absolutely terrific work." John Engel and Rich Vignes were the frosh/soph. standouts.

Arnold also commented on senior, Glen Stazak. "Glen is a very good runner, but he's out of shape." Freshman, Jim Stanford was observed by Arnold as being the most improved runner.

While there may be some disappointment this season, there is no question that the team is getting better. While the varsity has never experienced victory as a team in three years, they now have four under their belt.



The Bridge staff recently visited the University of Illinois to attend a journalism convention. The convention was sponsored by the Illinois State High School Press Association. The event included lectures by professors and experienced newspaper writers. The Bridge staff members in attendance felt the convention should have a positive effect on future issues of the Bridge.

High schools from all across the state attended the convention. Opinion editor, Sylvia Belicke, is shown here as the day draws to an end.

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Injured Ream pushing for recovery

by Dave Bahlmann

"Someone was laying on my leg and another person fell on my knee facing it to go the wrong way," explained senior running back Rob Ream.

The knee is a very tender spot for a football player and as Rob Ream found out the hard way, it could ruin a career.

It was the Varsity Wildcats annual intersquad scrimmage and Rob Ream was playing on defense when the injury occurred. "Trainer Tierney and Coach Larry Parker looked at it and told me to put ice on it," claims Ream. "They said it looked fine."

In the first game against Geneva, Ream seemed to be alright but didn't feel like he had a lot of power. He played the game under some soreness and resorted to ice for pain afterwards.

The actual ballooning of the knee wasn't noticed until he was at home one day. "I was watching a football game and went upstairs when my Dad discovered puffing on my knee," describes Ream.

"Trainer Tierney and Coach Larry Parker ... told me to put ice on it," claims Ream. "They said it looked fine."

"We went to the doctor who diagnosed the injury as torn crucial ligaments," (a major ligament in the knee), says Ream.

He now had two options. To have surgery done and be excluded from football for the remainder of the year; or to continue play in risk of more harm and under painful conditions.

The decision was for the operation, which turned out to be very successful. "The doctor said I should be at 100% plus," exuberates Ream.

Lugging around 20 pounds of extra weight and rehabilitating till you almost

drop could get very tiresome for an individual. Will he play football again? "I have a deep desire to play again," sighs Ream. "I still plan on playing college football."

When asked with whom he replied "preferably a major university." He has received much information from many different colleges and is wishing for some kind of scholarship to one of them.

"I have a deep desire to play again," sighs Ream. "I still plan on playing college football."

But he knows before the action, must come the hard work, mainly in getting the knee back in shape.

A total of about 9 weeks will be spent in a cast, 5 being totally immobile and 5 having room for slight movement.

"I feel bad that I can't play my senior year," a dejected Ream says, "I miss the team." As for school, he misses the social life but not the work.

You may have seen Ream rooting for his teammates in a wheel chair at the games, sharing their emotions as if he were still playing.

It's a different atmosphere from the stands and Rob has pinpointed things he wouldn't notice while playing.

As for his present attitude and outlook he is very peppy and determined, and seeks his chance to return to the sport. "In football you condition your butt off and still get bangs and bruises," he admits, "but this kind of injury is rare, people get hurt more in every day life," he concludes.

So, be looking for the return of one We-Go griddier who won't let an injury end his future.



A dejected Ream watches the Wildcats struggle through another game. He is kept company by his father and senior, Rick Belle.

Beeskow just twirling along

by Dave Barry

Since her baton twirling "career" began way back in third grade, junior, Cathy Beeskow has spent countless hours practicing her routines.

Beeskow said however, that "all of the really good ones (baton twirlers) start when they're about three or four." She feels that due to her late start her potential is limited. Cathy does not plan to continue twirling after high school. "It just takes too much time," she complained.

During her sophomore year, Beeskow also played volleyball. Cathy maintained an exhaustive schedule throughout the volleyball season. "I came home tired after practice," she recalled, "and then I had to twirl for a couple of hours until my hands started to swell up." Beeskow decided to give up volleyball this year.

Cathy readily admitted that baton twirling has often interfered with her schoolwork. Last year she rarely opened a book before nine or nine-thirty at night. "This year's a little better," she said. "I've had more time to spend on school."

Beeskow found it difficult returning to baton twirling in high school. She had been without an instructor or regular practice since fifth grade. But she went back to her original teacher, Debbie Wieneckie, and prepared for a "comeback."

When preparing for a football game, Beeskow still spends a couple of hours each night practicing. Along with her teacher, Cathy makes up a new routine for each home football game. She feels this is one of

the hardest parts about baton twirling.

Besides the tremendous amount of time involved, twirling also means spending a substantial amount of money. Since the high school would not provide a baton twirling outfit, Cathy's parents purchased her rather expensive costume which she performs in. The money paid for lessons was also added up over the years.

The only time Cathy doesn't like to twirl is in the rain. However, We-go's first home game was played in the rain. "I can't stand twirling in the rain," she said. "The baton slips all over the place." Of course, Beeskow went through with it despite her complaints.

We-go Sports Schedule

| Football | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-----|------------|
| October | | | |
| 16 | Wheaton-Warrenville | H | 8:00 6:00 |
| 22 | Wheaton Central | A | 8:00 6:00 |
| 30 | Glenbard South | H | 8:00 6:00 |
| November | | | |
| 6 | Naperville North | H | 8:00 6:00 |
| Soccer | | | |
| October | | | |
| 15 | Wheaton-Warrenville | H | 6:00 4:30 |
| 20 | Glenbard South | H | 6:00 4:30 |
| 22 | Wheaton Central | A | 4:30 4:30 |
| 27 | Sub-sectionals | TBA | 3:00 |
| 29 | Sub-sectionals | TBA | 3:00 |
| 31 | Sub-sectionals | TBA | 3:00 |
| November | | | |
| 3 | Sectionals | TBA | 4:00 |
| 6 | Sectionals | TBA | 4:00 |
| 13 | State Finals | TBA | 4:00 |
| Girls' Swimming | | | |
| October | | | |
| 15 | Naperville | A | 6:30 |
| 20 | Westmont & East Aurora | H | 7:00 |
| 23 | Waubonsie Valley | A | 5:00 |
| 24 | Waubonsie Valley | A | 12:30 |
| 27 | Naperville North | H | 7:00 |
| November | | | |
| 3 | Rosary | H | 7:00 |
| Volleyball | | | |
| October | | | |
| 15 | Glenbard North | A | 6:00 |
| 17 | Larkin | A | 10:00 a.m. |
| 20 | Naperville Central | A | 6:00 |
| 22 | Wheaton Central | H | 6:00 |
| 24 | Glenbard West | H | 10:00 a.m. |
| 27 | Districts | TBA | 11:00 a.m. |
| 28 | Districts | TBA | TBA |
| 29 | Districts | TBA | 3:30 |
| 30 | Districts | TBA | 3:30 |
| 31 | Districts | TBA | 10:45 a.m. |
| November | | | |
| 3 | Sectionals | TBA | 4:00 |
| 5 | Sectionals | TBA | 3:00 |
| 7 | Super Sectional | TBA | 10:00 a.m. |
| 13 | State Finals | TBA | 4:00 |
| Tennis | | | |
| October | | | |
| 16 | DVC Meet/ Glenbard South | A | 10:30 a.m. |
| 17 | DVC Meet/ Glenbard South | A | 10:30 a.m. |
| 24 | Districts | TBA | 11:00 a.m. |
| 29 | State Finals | TBA | 12:45 |
| 30 | State Finals | TBA | 12:45 |
| 31 | State Finals | TBA | 12:45 |
| Cross Country | | | |
| October | | | |
| 23 | DVC Meet/ Wheaton Warr. | A | 4:00 |
| 31 | Districts | TBA | 10:00 a.m. |
| November | | | |
| 7 | Sectionals | TBA | 9:45 a.m. |
| 14 | State Finals | TBA | 10:00 a.m. |

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